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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/018,589	11/22/2002	Hans Zschintzsch	50029-00001	8347
7590 08/10/2006			EXAMINER	
Kenneth J Johnson			RAMOS FELICIANO, ELISEO	
Marsh Fischma	nn & Breyfogle			
Suite 411			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3151 South Vaughn Way			2617	
Aurora, CO 80014			DATE MAILED: 08/10/2006	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

		Application No.	Applicant(s)	Applicant(s)			
Office Action Summary		10/018,589	ZSCHINTZSCH	ZSCHINTZSCH, HANS			
		Examiner	Art Unit				
		Eliseo Ramos-Felician	1				
The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address Period for Reply							
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.  - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.  - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.  - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).							
Status	•						
1)[\]	Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 Ma	av 2006					
·		action is non-final.					
,—	Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is						
₹/□	closed in accordance with the practice under <i>Ex parte Quayle</i> , 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.						
Disposition of Claims							
· _	· <u> </u>						
	Claim(s) <u>12-31</u> is/are pending in the application.						
	4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration.						
·	) Claim(s) is/are allowed.						
•	Claim(s) <u>12-31</u> is/are rejected.						
	•						
8) Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.							
<b>Applicati</b>	on Papers						
9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.							
10)	The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a)☐ acce	epted or b) objected	d to by the Examiner.	<b>3</b>			
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).							
	Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).						
11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.							
Priority u	ınder 35 U.S.C. § 119						
<ul> <li>12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).</li> <li>a) All b) Some * c) None of:</li> <li>1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.</li> <li>2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No</li> <li>3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).</li> <li>* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.</li> </ul>							
2)	t(s) e of References Cited (PTO-892) e of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) nation Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) r No(s)/Mail Date	Paper	iew Summary (PTO-413) No(s)/Mail Date e of Informal Patent Application (P	TO-152)			

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#### **DETAILED ACTION**

#### Art Unit - Notice

1. The Art Unit location of your application in the USPTO has changed. To aid in correlating any papers for this application, all further correspondence regarding this application should be directed to Art Unit 2617.

### Claim Objections

2. Previous objection to *claim 26* is withdrawn in view of Applicant's amendment filed May 25, 2006.

# Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. Previous rejection under 35 USC 112 to the claims is withdrawn in view of Applicant's amendment filed May 25, 2006.

# Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

- (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.
- 5. Claims 26-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Mukherjee et al. (US Patent Number 6,289,223).

Regarding claim 26, Mukherjee et al. discloses a method of providing a cellular broadcast center with a cellular broadcast message (column 2, lines 1-4, 10-13 & 32-36; column 1, line 48; title), comprising:

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receiving a short message (column 2, line 45; column 3, line 65; column 4, line 60) from a short message center (SMS-IWMSC 16); (see column 3, lines 5-14);;

converting the short message into a cellular broadcast message ("an originating mobile unit may then transmit an SMS message to a plurality of destination units by transmitting an SMS message addressed to a predefined usergroup MSISDN" – abstract: therefore, the SMS message is translated into cellular broadcast message as claimed; see also column 2, lines 10-21 & 24-26; column 4, lines 3-6; column 7, lines 4-6);

forwarding the cellular broadcast message to a cellular broadcast center (SMS-GMSC 20) (see column 3, lines 17-20).

The cellular broadcast message is broadcasted to subscribers within a defined area of the cell broadcast center as claimed (because it can only be received by subscribers within a range of the broadcast cell tower).

Regarding **claim 27**, Mukherjee et al. discloses everything claimed as applied above (see *claim 26*). In addition, Mukherjee et al. discloses wherein the cellular broadcast center delivers the cellular broadcast message to all subscribers (usergroup) in communication with a mobile station associated with the cellular broadcast center (comparing and selecting multipoint usergroup) (see abstract; column 3, lines 20-25; column 4, line 59 to column 5, line 5).

Regarding **claim 28**, Mukherjee et al. discloses everything claimed as applied above (see *claim 26*). In addition, Mukherjee et al. discloses wherein converting includes performing authentication of a subscriber associated with the short message (determining origination authentication – see column 3, lines 20-25; column 4, line 59 to column 5, line 5)

Regarding claim 29, Mukherjee et al. discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 26). In addition, Mukherjee et al. discloses wherein the forwarding is performed through a

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process valid for transmitting cellular broadcast messages (column 3, lines 17-20: "forwarding", as taught by Mukherjee et al., is in fact a process. The process/forwarding is fairly characterized as "valid").

Regarding **claim 30**, Mukherjee et al. discloses everything claimed as applied above (see *claim 26*). In addition, Mukherjee et al. discloses wherein converting includes formatting the short message ("an originating mobile unit may then transmit an SMS message to a plurality of destination units by transmitting an SMS message addressed to a predefined usergroup MSISDN" – abstract: therefore, the SMS message is translated or formatted; see also column 2, lines 10-21 & 24-26; column 4, lines 3-6; column 7, lines 4-6).

Regarding **claim 31**, Mukherjee et al. discloses everything claimed as applied above (see *claim 26*). In addition, Mukherjee et al. discloses wherein the converting includes using a part of the short message to determine a routing instruction (SMS message is encapsulated with MSISDN of destination users, which is routing information/instruction – column 6, lines 30-53; particularly lines 40-45; also see column 3, line 15) (message is addressed to group: i.e. used to determine routing instruction. See abstract; column 2, lines 10-21 & 24-26; column 4, lines 3-6; column 7, lines 4-6).

# Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

- 6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:
  - (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

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7. Claims 12-14, 18-19, 21/18, 21/19/18, and 23-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mukherjee et al. (US Patent Number 6,289,223).

Regarding **claim 12**, Mukherjee et al. discloses a process of allowing direct access for individual subscribers to a cellular phone network (Figure 1) with existing cell broadcast services (column 2, lines 1-4, 10-13 & 32-36; column 1, line 48; title), the process comprising:

accepting a point-to-point short message from a cellular phone (12) equipped to exchange point-to-point short messages (column 2, line 45; column 3, line 65; column 4, line 60) with a short-message center (SMS-IWMSC 16) over a cellular phone network (10 - Figure 1), (see column 3, lines 5-14);

providing a coupling instance (SC 18) interconnectable with the short-message center (SMS-IWMSC 16); (see column 3, lines 15-20);

doing at least one of: a test (determines destination / subscriber status), an adjustment (parses the messages) and a conversion (deciphers the messages) of the point-to-point short message necessary to convert the point-to-point short message into a cellular broadcast message in the coupling instance (SC 18) (see column 3, lines 20-25; column 4, line 59 to column 5, line 5); ["an originating mobile unit may then transmit an SMS message to a plurality of destination units by transmitting an SMS message addressed to a predefined usergroup MSISDN" – abstract: therefore, the SMS message is translated into cellular broadcast message as claimed; see also column 2, lines 10-21 & 24-26; column 4, lines 3-6; column 7, lines 4-61; and

forwarding the cellular broadcast message to a cell broadcast center (SMS-GMSC 20) by means of a process (e.g. forwarding) that applies to the cell broadcast center (see column 3, lines 17-20); [Forwarding, as taught by Mukherjee et al., is in fact a process. Thus the limitation "by means of a process that applies to the cell broadcast center" is inherent, since such process is

needed for the system to operate, and it has to be applicable to the cell broadcast center because it is the one receiving the forwarded messages].

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The cellular broadcast message is broadcasted to subscribers within a defined area of the cell broadcast center as claimed (because it can only be received by subscribers within a range of the broadcast cell tower).

However, Mukherjee et al. fails particularly disclose that the network is a *digital* cellular phone network, as claimed.

In the background of the invention, Mukherjee et al. teaches several different digital-based telecommunications systems, such as GSM and PCS, that provide non-speech services to mobile subscribers, such as short message services (see column 1, lines 30-40). Consequently, Mukherjee et al. suggests to apply their improved SMS service in a digital cellular phone network, such as GSM.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to implement Mukherjee et al.'s short message method in a digital cellular phone network because digital-based standards, like GSM, are widely used; hence, an increased number of users can benefit from the service.

Regarding **claim 13**, Mukherjee et al. discloses everything claimed as applied above (see *claim 12*). In addition, Mukherjee et al. discloses wherein a parameter (group identifier or usergroup MSISDN) for using cell broadcast is given by the subscriber (user) in the point-to-point short message (the user enters the group identifier when initiating the SMS transmission – column 2, lines 13-21 & 24-27; column 3, lines 55-56).

Regarding claim 14, Mukherjee et al. discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claim 12). In addition, Mukherjee et al. discloses wherein a parameter for using cell broadcast is

predetermined (beforehand / prior arrangements – column 4, lines 49-53) and are added to the broadcast message by the coupling instance (SC 18) (column 3, lines 20-25; column 4, line 67 to column 5, line 2).

Regarding **claim 18**, Mukherjee et al. discloses a device for allowing direct access for individual subscribers to a cellular phone network (Figure 1) with existing cell broadcast services (column 2, lines 1-4, 10-13 & 32-36; column 1, line 48; title), wherein the cellular phones (12) of the subscribers (users) are equipped to exchange point-to-point short messages (column 2, line 45; column 3, line 65; column 4, line 60) with a short-message center (SMS-IWMSC 16) over the cellular phone network (10 - Figure 1), (see column 3, lines 5-14), whereby short messages declared cell broadcast messages ("an originating mobile unit may then transmit an SMS message to a plurality of destination units by transmitting an SMS message addressed to a predefined usergroup MSISDN" – abstract; column 2, lines 10-21 & 24-26; column 4, lines 3-6; column 7, lines 4-6) are forwarded to a cell broadcast center (SMS-GMSC 20), (see column 3, lines 15-20). The cellular broadcast message is broadcasted to subscribers within a defined area of the cell broadcast center as claimed (because it can only be received by subscribers within a range of the broadcast cell tower). The device comprising:

a coupling instance (SC 18) connected to a short message center (SMS-IWMSC 16), which accepts (column 3, lines 14-16; see also Figure 1) point-to-point short message (column 2, line 45; column 3, line 65; column 4, line 60); and

means of doing (inherent) at least one of: a test (for determining destination and subscriber status), an adjustment (for parsing the messages), and a conversion (for deciphering the messages) of the point-to-point short message necessary to convert the point-to-point short message into a cellular broadcast message (see column 3, lines 20-25; column 4, line 59 to

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column 5, line 5) ("means of doing" inherent from the explained function) ["an originating mobile unit may then transmit an SMS message to a plurality of destination units by transmitting an SMS message addressed to a predefined usergroup MSISDN" – abstract: therefore, the SMS message is translated into cellular broadcast message as claimed; see also column 2, lines 10-21 & 24-26; column 4, lines 3-6; column 7, lines 4-6];

wherein the coupling instance (SC 18) is connected to a cell broadcast center (SMS-GMSC 20) to which the converted message is forwarded (see column 3, lines 17-20).

However, Mukherjee et al. fails particularly disclose that the network is a digital cellular phone network, as claimed.

In the background of the invention, Mukherjee et al. teaches several different digital-based telecommunications systems, such as GSM and PCS, that provide non-speech services to mobile subscribers, such as short message services (see column 1, lines 30-40). Consequently, Mukherjee et al. suggests to apply their improved SMS service in a digital cellular phone network, such as GSM.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to implement Mukherjee et al.'s short message method in a digital cellular phone network because digital-based standards, like GSM, are widely used; hence, an increased number of users can benefit from the service.

Regarding **claim 19**, Mukherjee et al. discloses everything claimed as applied above (see *claim 18*). In addition, Mukherjee et al. discloses wherein the point-to-point short messages contain parameters (group identifier or usergroup MSISDN) for defining the broadcast area (see column 2, lines 13-21 & 24-27; column 3, lines 55-56) and, if necessary, other parameters (for example, origination related data, etc. – column 3, lines 21-24).

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Regarding claim 21/18 and 21/19/18, Mukherjee et al. discloses everything claimed as applied above (see *claim 18-19*). In addition, Mukherjee et al. discloses wherein a filter component (for comparing and selecting multipoint usergroup) is provided in the coupling instance (SC 18) (see column 3, lines 20-25; column 4, line 59 to column 5, line 5) ("component" is inherent from the respective explained functions).

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Regarding **claim 23**, Mukherjee et al. discloses everything claimed as applied above (see *claim 12*). In addition, Mukherjee et al. discloses filtering (comparing and selecting multipoint usergroup) the point-to-point short message based on a subscriber associated with the cellular phone (see column 3, lines 20-25; column 4, line 59 to column 5, line 5).

Regarding claims 24-25, Mukherjee et al. discloses everything claimed as applied above (see claims 12 and 18). In addition, Mukherjee et al. discloses wherein the point-to-point short message is declared as an intended cellular broadcast message by a subscriber associated with the cellular phone ("an originating mobile unit may then transmit an SMS message to a plurality of destination units by transmitting an SMS message addressed to a predefined usergroup MSISDN" – abstract; column 2, lines 10-21 & 24-26; column 4, lines 3-6; column 7, lines 4-6).

In addition: claims 24-25 include a recitation of intended use. A recitation of the intended use of the claimed invention must result in a structural difference between the claimed invention and the prior art in order to patentably distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art. If the prior art structure is capable of performing the intended use, then it meets the claim.

8. Claims 15/12, 15/13/12, and 15/14/12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mukherjee et al. (US Patent Number 6,289,223) in view of Sikand et al. (US Patent Number 5,515,421).

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Regarding claims 15/12, 15/13/12, and 15/14/12, Mukherjee et al. discloses everything claimed as applied above (see *claims 12-14*). However, Mukherjee et al. fails to specifically disclose that the area to which the cellular broadcast message applies is determined by giving the dialing prefix, the postal code or the vehicle license number, as claimed.

Sikand et al. discloses a message broadcasting method wherein callers (area to which the broadcast message applies) are identified according to a one or more common defined characteristics, such as, area code (dialing prefix), zip code (postal code), or any other caller characteristics or codes (for example, vehicle license number) (see column 1, lines 50-54 & 61-67). For example, if the broadcast message is local weather the caller identification would be the zip code (postal code) (column 2, lines 1-3, and column 3, lines 1-5).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to determine the area to which the cellular broadcast message applies by using a dialing prefix, a postal code or a vehicle license number, because the information can be, for example, geographically dependent, such as local weather, in which case the information is pertinent for a particular zip code group, as taught by Sikand et al.

9. Claims 16/12, 16/13/12, 16/14/12, 17/12, 17/13/12, 17/14/12, 20/18, 20/19/18, 22/18 and 22/19/18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mukherjee et al. (US Patent Number 6,289,223) in view of Vedel (US Patent Number 5,974,308).

Regarding claims 20/18, 20/19/18, 22/18 and 22/19/18, Mukherjee et al. discloses everything claimed as applied above (see *claims 18-19*). However, Mukherjee et al. fails to specifically disclose an accounting instance / billing entity provided in the coupling instance, as claimed.

Vedel discloses message broadcasting apparatus wherein accounting instance / billing entity provided for the purpose of informing users a rate of charge (see abstract; column 3, lines 15-35 of Vedel). Since the coupling instance (SC 18 of Mukherjee et al.) performs most of the short-message service processing (column 3, lines 20-24; column 4, lines 53 and 67 to column 5, line 10, *inter alia*, of Mukherjee et al.), it would have been obvious to also perform the needed accounting / billing process since its location is not critical, as it can be seen from Vedel.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide Mukherjee et al.'s device with an accounting instance / billing entity provided in the coupling instance, because, first, it is needed for the purpose of selling the broadcast services, and, second, it can be used to inform users a rate of charge, as taught by Vedel.

Regarding claims 16/12, 16/13/12, 16/14/12, 17/12, 17/13/12, and 17/14/12, Mukherjee et al. discloses everything claimed as applied above (see *claims 12-14*). However, Mukherjee et al. fails to specifically disclose an accounting methods as claimed. However, provision of these accounting methods is obvious expedient in view of Vedel as explained for claims 20 and 22 above, explanation that is applied and incorporated herein by reference.

# Response to Arguments

- 10. Applicant's arguments filed May 25, 2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.
- 11. In response to applicant's argument that the references fail to show certain features of applicant's invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., Applicant's argued broadcast messaging not including or not defining user groups prior to transmission page 7, second paragraph of the response) are not recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the

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claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

Applicant argues a particular definition of "broadcasting", such definition is not a limitation part of the claims. Claims are given their broadest reasonable interpretation (MPEP 2111).

12. Applicant argues Sikand does not even contemplate cellular telephony (page 8, top paragraph).

In response to applicant's arguments against the references individually, one cannot show nonobviousness by attacking references individually where the rejections are based on combinations of references. See *In re Keller*, 642 F.2d 413, 208 USPQ 871 (CCPA 1981); *In re Merck & Co.*, 800 F.2d 1091, 231 USPQ 375 (Fed. Cir. 1986).

Mukherjee et al. does teach cellular telephony. Sikand has been applied as secondary reference.

13. Applicant argues Sikand is too old; prior to the rapid growth of the cellular telephony (page 8, top paragraph).

In response to applicant's argument based upon the age of the references, contentions that the reference patents are old are not impressive absent a showing that the art tried and failed to solve the same problem notwithstanding its presumed knowledge of the references. See *In re Wright*, 569 F.2d 1124, 193 USPQ 332 (CCPA 1977).

14. In response to applicant's argument that there is no suggestion to combine the references (page 8, top paragraph), the examiner recognizes that obviousness can only be established by combining or modifying the teachings of the prior art to produce the claimed invention where there is some teaching, suggestion, or motivation to do so found either in the references

themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art. See *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 USPQ2d 1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988) and *In re Jones*, 958 F.2d 347, 21 USPQ2d 1941 (Fed. Cir. 1992). In this case, the teaching, suggestion, or motivation to combine can be found in Sikand et al. as explained above.

15. Applicant argues Mukherjee does not even use the word filter once in the specification (page 8, bottom paragraph).

In response, claims are given their broadest reasonable interpretation (MPEP 2111). To this regard, Mukherjee et al.'s comparing and selecting multipoint usergroup is in fact "filtering" as claimed.

16. Applicant repeatedly argues a particular definition of "broadcasting" as explained above (pages 9-11). In response, such definition is not a limitation part of the claims. Claims are given their broadest reasonable interpretation (MPEP 2111).

## Conclusion

17. THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

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18. Any inquiry concerning this communication from the examiner should be directed to Eliseo Ramos-Feliciano whose telephone number is 571-272-7925. The examiner can normally be reached from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on 5-4/9 1st Friday Off.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nick Corsaro, can be reached on (571) 272-7876. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

ELISEO RAMOS-FELICIANO PRIMARY EXAMINER

ERF/erf August 5, 2006